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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,786	12/30/2003	Darrell R. Finneman	D/A3506 XERZ 2 00671	1093
27885	7590	02/22/2006	EXAMINER	
FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN, MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP 1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SEVENTH FLOOR CLEVELAND, OH 44114			BUI, HUNG S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/749,786

Applicant(s)

FINNEMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Hung S. Bui

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 14-17 and 23-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-13 and 18-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/20/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 6, 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bartos et al. [US 5,704,750].

Regarding claim 1, Bartos et al. disclose a support member (figure 3), comprising:

- a support panel (figure 3) ;
- a retention element (24) for use in mounting an associated component (28) to the support panel, the retention element defining a bore (figure 3) for receiving an associated threaded fixing element (10) which mounts the component to the support panel and a protrusion which extends into the bore from a sidewall thereof (figure 3).

Regarding claim 2, Bartos et al. further disclose wherein the retention element being formed of a boss that extends from the support panel (figure 3).

Regarding claim 3, Bartos et al. disclose the boss being formed of plastic (see abstract).

Regarding claim 4, Bartos et al. disclose wherein the bore includes a first portion located adjacent to a fixing element receiving opening of the bore and a second portion,

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spaced from the opening, the second portion having a smaller diameter than the first portion (figure 3).

Regarding claims 16 and 23, Bartos et al. disclose a combination of a retention element and a fixing element (figure 3) comprising:

- a retention element (24) which defines a bore and a projection which extends into the bore; and
- a threaded fixing element (22) which is received by the bore and which is capable of forming a helical groove in the bore, the projection engaging a threaded portion of the fixing element as the threaded fixing element is threadably engaged with the groove.

Regarding claim 17, Bartos et al. further disclose wherein the fixing member comprises a screw (figure 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 14 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartos et al. in view of Slater [US 4,580,689].

Regarding claim 14, Bartos et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for the support member comprising a chassis of an imaging device.

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Slater discloses a support member (18) being used within a chassis of an imaging device (figures 2-3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the support member with a chassis of Bartos et al., as suggested by Slater, in order to secure component with the panel through a support member, wherein the protrusion subtends an angle from a longitudinal axis of the bore of at least 10 degree to 30 degree.

Regarding claim 24, Bartos et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for a chassis which including a plurality of the retention elements.

Slater discloses a chassis (10) having a plurality of the retention elements (18), a plurality of the fixing members (12) and at least one component (16) which is clamped to the chassis with the fixing elements and the retention elements (figures 1-3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the plurality of retention members with a chassis of Bartos et al., as suggested by Slater, for the purpose of closing chassis with base/cap/cover and further to protect components therein the chassis.

Regarding claims 25-26, the claimed method steps are inherent in the product structure.

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Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5-13 and 18-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The cited reference fails to teach or suggest the support member having a bore including a rib which extends generally parallel with a longitudinal axis of the bore.

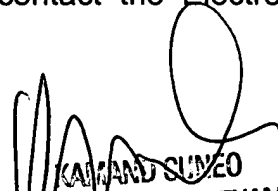
Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

2/16/06 (Hung Bui)


KAMAND CUNEO
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